

December
2011

TEAM NEWS

Together Everyone Achieves More



Howard "Howie" Marbach, Jr.
District 2-A2 Governor
2011 - 2012

**I BELIEVE
TOGETHER • EVERYONE • ACHIEVES • MORE**

Home of PIP Herb Petry
LSRF
MESU
TLC

Converse



From The District Governor



Please don't walk in front of me, because I may not follow; Please don't walk behind me, because I may not lead; Just walk beside me and be my Friend! God Bless.

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Hi Fellow Lions!

This month was started with the 2nd Council of Governors meeting held on Nov. 4-5, 2011 in Round Rock. On Friday Nov. 4th there were committee and workshop meetings all afternoon with a Pre-Council meeting that night. Sat. Nov. 5th the Council of Governors meeting was held in the morning. After lunch there was a GMT Workshop followed by a District Governors workshop. To sum it all up it was a great time to network with other Lions,

gather a lot of information about Lionism, and a great time to have fun with the whole Council family.

PDG Chris Lloyd (Mid-Winter Conference Chairman) and I visited Fredericksburg to finalize the hotel and meeting facility which was set-up by the Fredericksburg Lions Club. The Mid-Winter Conference will be held there on Jan. 13-14, 2012. The Mid-Winter Conference hotel is the La Quinta Inn and Suites (830-990-2899) at 1465 E. Main St. where the

Candidates Reception and Hospitality will be held on the evening of Jan. 13, 2012. The Cabinet meeting will be held on the morning of Jan. 14, 2012 at the First Baptist Church of Fredericksburg on 1407 E. Main St. This meeting will be highlighted by a Presentation by Dr. Sandra Fox of the Lions Low Vision Center of Texas. Also, there will be surprises Guest Speaker on behalf of the Leo Clubs of Europe. It all looks to be a wonderful time to gather some

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great knowledge along with having some Fun. Look forward to seeing you there. There will be no planned lunch. Many Lions wearing their vests are planning to visit local eateries' in an effort to show our support for the many years they have given to the Fredericksburg Lions Club.

The District 2-A2 Lions participated in the Nov. 12th Veterans Day Parade in San Antonio. Many Thanks to each of you and your fellow Club members for making this years parade something that all of District 2-A2 can be proud of. A special Thanks to the La Vernia Lions Club for providing the float, the OLLU Club for pedaling the PETs entire length of the parade, the Founder Lions Club for providing the Lions Mascot, and the Westside Lions Club for taking care of the bulk of the picnic needs. It was a beautiful day to come together as Lions and to give us more public recognition. A total of 58 Lions and their family members representing 12 Lions Clubs participated. Also, Lion Sam Pantusa for coordinating it all. I had planned to attend, but I was in bed with food poisoning. I will make it next year. In fact lets all plan to become involved in the next years Veterans Day Parade, because it is real good publicity for Lionism.

On Nov. 15th, a special meeting was held at the Helotes Lions Building with a presentation by Lion Walt Hays the Alaska Coordinator for the PET Project. The PET Pro-

ject has 800 volunteers in 23 shops (including the one operated by the Northside Lions Club) build this sturdy, hand-cranked cart that is provided free to the disabled of the world. Since its founding in 1996, 30,000 PETs (an acronym for Personal Energy Transportation) have been distributed in 93 nations world-wide. The meeting was concluded with a BBQ plate social provided by the Northside Lions Club. the meeting was well attended and very informative, and well worth the time and effort.

I had the opportunity to visit with and speak to the La Vernia Lions Club on their 40th Anniversary on Nov. 19th. There was a great representation of District Lions along with City and County officials. It was also a warm feeling for me because my home club the Converse Lions Club sponsored the La Vernia Lions Club in April 1971. It was so wonderful to hear all the many things they have accomplished in those 40 years. Keep up all the great service you provide to your fellow man.

I hope you and your families had a blessed and wonderful Thanksgiving Day. I know we sure did we had over 55 people for turkey and all the trimming, but more important was the warmth and togetherness we had. As we all know Thanksgiving is a time to be Thankful for all the Blessings in our lives, and we all have so much to be Thankful for. Also, because we will not have another Team Newsletter until after the Christmas holiday; Elaine and I want to Wish you and your Family a

special Happy, Blessed, and Giving Christmas Season and a Happy New Year.

In my traveling through out this great District, my many e-mails, and other correspondence I can feel the growing expectation for membership growth. This is indeed great because the more Lion members we have the more we can do to help those less fortunate than ourselves. So continue talking to people and invite them to your Lion meeting, and we will all receive great benefits. With the New Year it might be a good time to re-evaluate our membership Goals along with other club goals and for ourselves. Go and Grow!

We look forward to meeting many of you at our club visits, which I really need to start increasing. If you have a date you would like for me to visit you club, please contact me, because I would love to visit with your Club. It is one of the District Governors responsibilities to meet with every club in the district. So Please help me out by contacting me. If you don't contact me I will have to contact you.

If you any constructive ideas you would like to discuss with me, the Team or would like to serve your District in anyway, Please contact me.

Yours In Lionism and God Bless You,

District Governor

Lion Howie Marbach



From The First Vice District Governor

My Fellow Lions:

I hope all of you have had a fun filled, blessed and happy Thanksgiving Holiday. November 2011,



has proven to be a busy month with District 2-A2 participating in the San Antonio Veterans Day Parade, to celebrating the La Vernia Lions Club 40th Year Anniversary of service to their community, to the Council of Governors Meeting, to my visiting various Lions Clubs talking about the "Stride for Sight". I know as the Christmas Holidays arrive many of you are busy in fund raising events, collecting toys and food items for the needy in your communities, as well as, enjoying family and friends.

December is synonymous with the spirit of giving. Lions epitomize this spirit of giving. And as Lions, we do it with passion. As John J. Murphy writes about passion, "It is doing what it is meant to do. It is reminding us that we are meant to be purposeful. We are meant to be positive. We are meant to be passionate." The La Vernia Lions Club is an example of giving. I want to congratulate the La Vernia Lions Club who at their 40th Anniversary Banquet requested that their guests bring either a can good or an unwrapped toy in lieu of paying for their meal. In turn, the La Vernia Lions will give these food items and toys to the most needy in their com-

munity. What a great idea. International President Tam continues to emphasize the importance of treating our fellow Lions as if they were family. This Holiday Season is a time for family and friends, so let us enjoy this time of year.

At the recent 40th Year Anniversary of the La Vernia Lions Club, Governor Lion Howie Marbach talked about the Health and Welfare of District 2-A2. Governor Howie stated that presently the District is on the positive side of growth, which we need to continue to grow and provide needed services to our communities. I encourage each of the clubs in our District to continue to recruit new members but at the same time work on retaining those that are presently members.

The Mid-Winter Conference for District 2-A2 will be held in Fredericksburg, Texas, and hosted by the Fredericksburg Lions Club on January 13th. and 14th. We are excited about having Dr. Sandy Fox with the Lions Low Vision Center of Texas to be our guest speaker. As you may know, with the help of a grant from the Baptist Health Foundation, the Lions of District 2-A2 and the U. T. Health Science Center, the Lions Low Vision Center has been expanded and remodeled. You will hear how this expansion has helped to serve more people in our communities who need these services. This also includes the military personnel coming back from Afghanistan and Iraq with head injuries that have impacted

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their sight. Again, I want to remind each of the Clubs that this is our 20th Anniversary for “Stride for Sight.” It is imperative that as a District we continue to participate in the “Stride for Sight” in order to continue to help fund projects like the expansion of the Lions Low Vision Center, the Patience Assistance Fund, the Clinical Skills Lab, the

Eberlin Research Lab and the Mobile Eye Screening Unit. Your participation in the “Stride for Sight” is keeping with our promise to be “Knights of the Blind” as requested by Helen Keller in 1925, at the International Lions Convention held in Cedar Point, Ohio.

As always, as I continue to visit Lions Clubs in the District, I hope to learn more about you and your

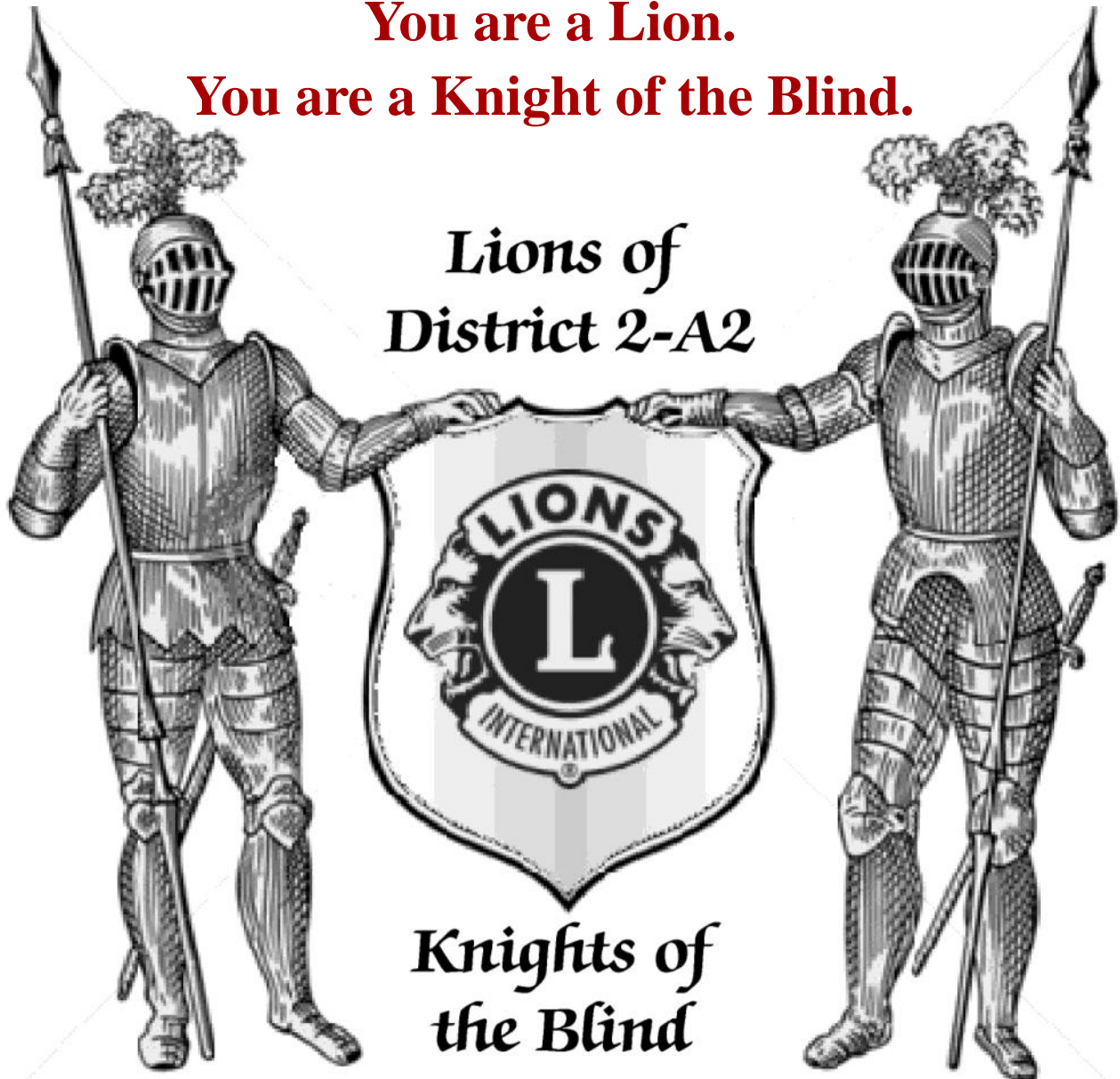
club and ways that I can give you my full support. Again, if I can be of service to you or your club, please let me know.

Yours in Service,

First Vice District Governor

Richard J. Keilholz

**You are a Lion.
You are a Knight of the Blind.**



**Lions of
District 2-A2**

**Knights of
the Blind**



From The Second Vice District Governor

To My Lions Family,

Did you know that Lions Eye Bank Week is the second week in December?

With that in mind, I want to share something special with you.

Carol Jean Knapp, a resident of Minnesota, knew she was in failing health; she prepared her will, made all of the pre-need arrangements and appointed her Niece as executor of her estate. Carol Jean was a compassionate person who chose nursing as her career, and in her lifetime provided loving, nurturing care to profoundly disabled children, most of whom had little chance of survival to the age of six. But these

children, and there were well over a thousand through her career, were treated with dignity and each one loved by Carol Jean, and every day of their short lives mattered.

This was the kind of woman Carol Jean was. Her life was an example of compassion, the kind of person you just have to admire.

Mary Jane, Carol Jean's Niece had heard of Lions before, but that was the extent of her knowledge about them. That was until two Lions Clubs collaborated to provide Mary Jane's mother equipment to help her continue reading as long as possible through the progression of her macular degeneration.

This kindness was something Mary Jane would always remember because of the joy it gave her mother to be able to continue reading until Alzheimer's disease made it impossible.

In September of 2007, Carol Jean passed away with her niece at her side. The next day, a kind man who identified himself as a Lion called Mary Jane, and gently discussed one last thing that Carol Jean could do to help others, just as she had all of her life.

The man who called was from the Lions of Minnesota Eye Bank. I can't imagine how hard it must be to approach a grieving family about the subject of organ donation when they've just lost a loved one, but his unique gift of being able to do just

that, along with Mary Jane's positive experience with and trust in Lions, came together that day and became a gift of Sight.

Either through transplant or research, someone, maybe many people, were helped. Maybe, just maybe, someone received a miracle.

I'm sharing this story with you, because Carol Jean Knapp is my Aunt. Mary Jane is my sister, and the Lions whose acts of kindness inspired this "Miracle through Service" are you.

Dear Donor Family,

We would like to extend our sincere sympathy to you on the death of your family member.

We realize that it is difficult to think of the needs of others when experiencing a significant loss. Thank you so much for talking to a donation coordinator and for supporting eye donation.

Sincerely,

Minnesota Lions Eye Bank Staff



My sister sent the beautiful folder containing these words of thanks from the Minnesota Lions Eye Bank on to me, knowing how much I would cherish them.

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(Continued from page 5)

I bring this story to you not only because it will soon be Lions Eye Bank Week, but because in the next few months you will receive visits from members of the Lions Sight Research Foundation speaking to you about the importance in participating in Stride for Sight.

Stride for Sight is one of the most important ways for Lions to get involved and contribute to the various programs (programs like the one that made my Aunt's gift of sight possible) that are administered by the Lions Sight Research Foundation.

Remember that 100% of your donations go to these programs, and every cent that you raise for Stride for Sight makes research to better the lives of the visually impaired possible, and enhances the possibility of their own miracle.

It is my hope, my goal, that every club in District 2-A2 will in some way participate in Stride for Sight.

To those that donate yearly, I hope you will consider raising your contribution, if only a bit, to help offset the growing cost of equipment and education, as well as the number of people in need of the services of the programs administered by LSRF.

And to those clubs who never, or rarely participate, I ask that you please get involved this year, and never forget the words of Helen Keller at a Lions Convention in 1925.

"Try to imagine how you would feel if you were suddenly stricken blind today. Picture yourself stumbling and groping at noonday as in the night; your work, your independence, gone. In that dark world wouldn't you be glad if a friend took you by the hand and said, "Come with me and I will teach you how to do some of the things you used to do when you could see?"

She went on to say, *"I appeal to you Lions, you who have your sight, your*

hearing, you who are strong and brave and kind. Will you not constitute yourselves Knights of the Blind in this crusade against darkness?

Right here, in the heart of District 2-A2, we have a Lions Sight Research Foundation like no other. It is a massive project undertaken solely by the Lions of our District, and it is up to us to secure the funding so it is able to continue its unparalleled ability to help the visually impaired.

Any donation, no matter what the size, is important not only to sight research, but to the challenge Lions international accepted those many years ago to join the crusade against darkness.

I look forward to our crusade together; every club in District 2-A2.

Yours in Service,

Second Vice District Governor
Lion Wendy Van Winkle

E-Mail Updates

Please beware of emails from Lions or other friends that claim they stranded in another country, that everything but their passports have been stolen, and they need your help (of course, they ask for money) to return home.

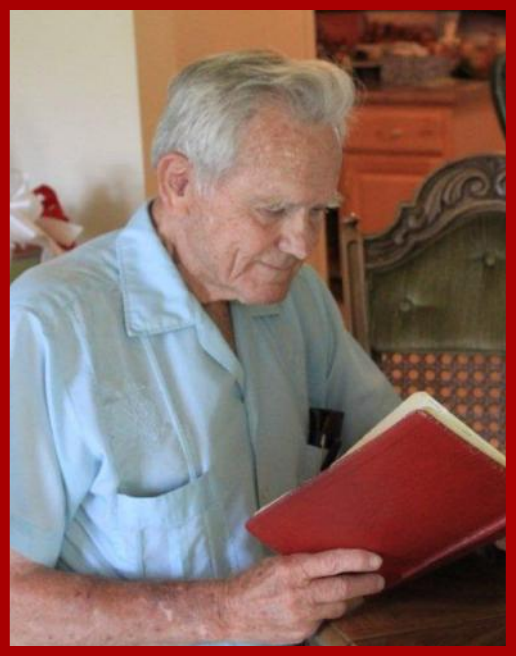
By simply responding to these emails (even to tell them you didn't

just fall off the turnip truck), the sender can then hijack your email address and cause you great havoc, and the time consuming process of attaining a new email address and getting it to those you wish to have it.

Please be aware that Lion Katherine Willems new, authentic email ad-

dress (which is personal and for the Natalia Lions Club) is now kathy-grandma.willems@gmail.com.

Please also note that the Windcrest Lions Club now has a new Secretary, PDG Bob Loreneec, so future relative correspondence should be sent to him at mblore-nec@yahoo.com.



From The District Chaplain

My Fellow Lions:

For three years I wandered the plains, bush and forests of East Africa. I slept among the big cats (lions, leopards, cheetah) the behemoths (elephants, hippos, rhinos, giraffe) and Plains game (impala, tommie, Grants, kongoni). But maybe more important were the Maasai, Kikuyu, Samburu, Turkana as well as other tribal entities. I learned much about how other organisms relate to death as well as how others relate themselves to the loss of a special one. Particularly interesting is how some animals seem to have more of a concern for a sick or dying one like the Wild African Hunting Dog or the elephant who is said to gather bones of a dead one into a stack as if to honor the dead.

Man, supposedly reveals more of a concern for one of his own who has departed the realm of the living by sacred ceremonies. From some Indian tribes who lay a departed one on an elevated pier under the clear blue skies of his former hunting grounds, to the one who has been cremated with bodily ashes

being scattered over a special territory that had a significant place in the person's life, to the normal practice where relatives and friends have gathered to pay their last respects.

Regardless, Lions through the years have chosen to honor deceased companions by announcing as soon as possible the loss of a fellow Lion in an avenue such as a Newsletter which is followed by a more formal and lasting remembrance with a Memorial Service at year's end. However, we can not do either if a Club fails to report the names of departed Lions in their regular reports or to the Chaplain. 'Lest we forget so soon, Remember to report immediately You will find the form on the following page..

District 2-A2 Chaplain

PDG Lytle Blankenship

lhblanken@gmail.com

Remembrances at Christmas and Always

for the Lions who have gone before us.

We offer Praise and Thanksgiving for these Lions

Lives and Service in Lionism.

In Memory

NAME _____ LIONS CLUB _____

JOINED LIONS _____ CLUB _____ CHARTER MEMBER _____

OTHER CLUBS _____

CLUB OFFICES HELD _____

DISTRICT OFFICES HELD _____

STATE OFFICES HELD _____

INT'L OFFICES HELD _____

AWARDS IN LIONISM _____

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES _____

NEXT OF KIN _____

Address (street/box) _____

City State _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____

OTHER COMMENTS

Additional comments may be included on attached sheet.

Member who will be your Club Representative for Memorial Service _____

Important: Send photo of deceased Lion. Digital preferred or color slide. If not available, send color print or good black & white.

Will you want photo back? Yes _____ No _____

Send to: PDG Lytle H. Blankenship, District 2-A2 Chaplain, 4410 Medina Hwy, Kerrville, TX 78028-8891

The Life of Herb Carroll Celebrated

Photo courtesy of the Wilson County News

With special thanks to Kristen Weaver



On October 22, the China Grove Lions Club celebrated 29 years of service by holding a fundraiser and honoring the life of Charter President and a dearly loved Lion Herb Carroll.

Many of the attendees were there to honor Lion Herb, many to hear Billy Mata & the Texas Tradition perform, and many just to support Lionism and all of its wonderful services they provide.

Wilson County news attended and published the above photograph with a tag line on page 3B of its November 9th issue, and we thank them not only for their generous support of the event, but also for paying tribute to a Lion who truly exemplified Lionism, and made a had a very positive influence on his community. Lion Herb participated in the China Grove City Council for many years, was the Honorary Chairman of the annual Cowboy Breakfast, the owner of Herb's Hat

Shop, served the Lions Club by holding office as Zone Chairman, Region Chairman, and holding District Cabinet Offices.

In addition to all his contributions, one of his greatest was an infectious smile that made everyone feel like a friend.

Thanks to all the more than 400 attendees for making the celebration a success.



Lions Clubs International **FOUNDATION**

We have solemnly supported the Foundation's efforts in Haiti and Japan among others and even this week millions are needed and are being raised.

BUT...

Our own children in America are in great need! **Sixteen Million** children in America currently live in poverty every day. **Thirty Percent** of the children in the great state of Oregon live in poverty and suffer from hunger every day.

This is the state of affairs as we ap-

proach Christmas. Through our Foundation, *we can help.*

Thank You.

PDG Warren Weir

PDG John Cole



La Vernia Lions Volunteer at Food Pantry



On Saturday, November 19th, the Lions of the Lavernia Lions Club donated 25 Thanksgiving Baskets to the La Vernia Food Pantry. President Steve Mays and the club members then spent the morning helping distribute them to needy area families. Great work, LaVernia. You make us all proud to be Lions!



Veterans Day Parade



District 2-A2 owes special thanks to the Lions who worked so very hard to represent the Veterans and families of Veterans in San Antonio's Annual Veterans Day Parade on Saturday, November 12.

The Lavernia Lions Club generously provided a float for those Lions who were unable to walk the parade route. The float was a beautiful tribute to Lionism and Veterans alike.

Members of Our Lady of the Lake University Lions Club drove PETs

(Personal Energy Transportation) devices the entire route and showed the public another facet of the difference Lions Clubs can make.

The Founders Club provided a mascot who entertained the crowds as well as the Lions!

After the parade was complete, the festivities continued for the Lions with a picnic arranged by Lion RoseMary Paletta.

Of course, we have Lion Sam Pantusa to thank for coordinating the

entire affair. Lion Sam is always willing to go above and beyond, and proved it once again with this spirited display of Patriotism and Lionism. Thank you, Lion Sam, for all your hard work.

And the thanks wouldn't be complete without thanking the Lion Veterans, the Veterans families, and the Veterans supporters who took their time to remember the contributions of the United States Armed Forces and join together in support of our Veterans. Special thanks to all of you.

Veterans Day Parade



Veterans Day Parade



Webinar Tutorial—How to Be a Participant

Webinars are virtual trainings generally one hour long that are conducted online with a group of participants and instructors. Participants use the Internet to connect the group members with the instructors. To register and login, participants are directed to an Internet address. Please [review our Guide to Register/login](#).

Most webinars have one or two instructors and a moderator/host. Participants view a PowerPoint presentation and polling questions on their computer. They listen to the instructors either via their computer speakers or headset. The participants may use the phone for audio/speaking or a computer headset with microphone to interact in discussions and respond to questions asked by the instructors, similar to training conducted in a classroom. For more information [read our Frequently Asked Questions](#).

We invite you to [experience an interactive tutorial on being a webinar participant](#). Upon finishing this tutorial you will be able to register, log in and actively participate in a webinar.

2011-2012 LCI Webinars

To convert the times below to your location visit the [Time Zone Converter](#).

Webinar Description, Dates and Times

How to Recruit New Members

How to recruit new members and market club activities

Intended Audience:

Club officers, membership committee and club members who plan to recruit new members

[Wednesday, January 11, 2012: 7:00 PM CST](#) (Chicago)

[Tuesday, January 17, 2012: 10:00 AM CST](#) (Chicago)

[Friday, January 20, 2012: 7:00 PM CST](#) (Chicago)

Managing a Service Project

How to coordinate and manage a service project

Intended Audience:

Lions who are service project managers or would like to be a project manager

[Wednesday, February 29, 2012: 7:00 PM CST](#) (Chicago)

[Tuesday, March 6, 2012: 10:00 AM CST](#) (Chicago)

[Friday, March 9, 2012: 7:00 PM CST](#) (Chicago)

Club Secretary Training

How to login, submit membership and service activity reports, and use club member data

Intended Audience:

Club secretaries who want to become more effective in using the WMMR site

[Wednesday, April 18, 2012: 7:00 PM CDT](#) (Chicago)

[Tuesday, April 24, 2012: 10:00 AM CDT](#) (Chicago)

[Friday, April 27, 2012: 7:00 PM CDT](#) (Chicago)

Editors Note: I participated in my first Webinar, "Club Rebuilding—How to Invigorate Your Club" on December 7th.. If you have never participated, I encourage you to do so. It was easier than I thought, didn't require a lot of technical savvy, took only an hour, had great presenters, and was well worth the time. Sure, there were a few things I already knew, but lots I didn't. They shared ideas, and gave me a lot to think about. It's a good way to connect with fellow Lions who are experiencing similar circumstances. Give it a try, you'll be a better Lion for it.

District 2-A2 Cabinet Meeting Minutes • Leakey, TX

Editors Note)

District Secretary Susan expresses her regret for the minutes being published later than she had anticipated. Due to ongoing computer problems, it took her longer than planned to submit the minutes. Thank you all for your patience, and thank you, Lion Susan, for submitting them to the TEAM News.

BUSINESS SESSION OCTOBER 15, 2011

The meeting was called to order by District Governor Howie Marbach at 9:08am welcoming everyone and thanking the Leakey Lions for a wonderful meeting. 2nd Vice District Governor Lion Wendy Van Winkle lead all in the pledge. The song "My Country Tis of Thee" was started by the Leakey Lions. The invocation was given by Chaplain PDG Lytle Blankenship. Before the invocation, Lion Lytle asked all secretaries and presidents of their clubs to let him know if anyone passes away in their club.

1st Vice District Governor Richard Keilholz introduced the special guests at the meeting. They were: PID Mike Butler, PCC Mike Rourke and his wife Lion Liz, IPDG John Cole and his wife Lion Pat who were celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary, PDG Warren Weir, PDG John Seale, PDG Ray Connor and his partner in service Lion Chris Condren, PDG Cal Lawson, PDG & President of the Texas

Lions Camp Pat Carroll, PDG John Kimbrough, PDG TJ Tijerina and his wife Lion Juanita, PDG Lytle Blankenship and his wife Lion Margaret, PDG Bob Lorenc and his wife Lion Maybelle and PDG Jesse Scott. At the head table was Lion Trish Wilson from the Texas Lions Camp, 2nd Vice District Governor Wendy Van Winkle, District Treasurer Lion Robert Castillo, District Governor Howie Marbach and District Secretary Lion Susan Merrifield.

District Secretary Lion Susan asked that when filling out the PU101's in April be sure to put the incoming president's e-mail address on the form for international. She reminded clubs to do their MMR's every month. The minutes from the Cabinet Meeting on July 23, 2011 which were approved by the District Governor, published on the District website and District newsletter were approved as written.

District Treasurer Lion Robert presented the budget for 2011-2012. Motion was made by Lion Marilyn Weed and seconded by Lion Rodriguez to be approved. There being no discussion the budget was approved.

IPDG John Cole gave out awards. They were for Lion Monique Reardon, Lion James Benke and Lion Bill Clark for appreciation on their work for the mid-winter conference in Helotes last year. The next award was for four 100% secretary awards. They were 1st VDG

Richard Keilholz, PDG Manny Carrillo, Lion Liz Chavez and Lion Elizabeth De La Rosa.

PDG Ray Connor spoke about the Youth Task Force. He said the youth of today is doing very well. This year's contests will be held in San Antonio at the District Convention, April 13-14. Diabetic Awareness chairperson Lion Katherine Willems-Darter spoke about the Diabetic Awareness Essay. She was not able to make copies. The topic and packet will be available at the mid-winter conference. The topic is "Education, Prevention, Detection and Treatment." Lion Eddie Williams spoke about the Drug Awareness Speech. He said the topic was not available yet but will e-mail the information when he receives it. He will have it at the mid-winter conference. Outstanding Youth chairperson Lion Ken Book said he will pass out the booklets at the break. March 9, 2012 is the deadline to have all contests turned in. District Governor Howie spoke about the Young Women's Pageant in place of Lion Robert Kneupper. He will pass out packets as well. The Peace Poster Contest deadline was October 1, 2011 for ordering. There was then a break-out session for Region and Zone Chairs, Presidents, Secretaries, Treasurers and Orientation & Indoctrination.

The meeting was reconvened at 10:48am with GLT Lion Wally Jackson. He said the Region and Zone chairs will be liaisons for

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District 2-A2 Cabinet Meeting Minutes • Leakey, TX

(Continued from page 16)

GLT. They want to train mentors in every club of 2-A2. GMT Lion Sam Pantusa said he's working on getting the logo out and they're trying to build 2 new campus clubs. PDG TJ Tijerina talked about the Texas Lions Camp Endowment and asked PDG Pat Carroll to stand and thanked her for her help. The endowment is to assure the camp will continue when we are gone. District 2-A2 has made \$114,000 in pledges. Lion Sid Martin mentioned the eyeglass truck is outside and he will collect all eyeglasses. Lion Doug Thomas said the 1st Down Syndrome Camp went well and they are looking forward to next year.

Lion Jim Weed reported on Stride for Sight and said the low vision center expansion is complete. They need fundraisers in the district. 1st VDG Richard and 2nd Vice District Governor Wendy unveiled the new

pin for 2012 celebrating their 20th year with the theme "Looking Back and Moving Forward". 1st VDG Richard, 2nd VDG Wendy and Lion Janie Garza passed them around to everyone. PDG John Seale reported on the Texas Lions Foundation. They have only had \$337 in donations this year. He said that if by June 30, 2012 they had raised \$25,000, the tail twisters can shave his head. There was then a break.

Upon the return of the break it was announced that the mid-winter conference will be in Fredericksburg on January 13-14, 2012 at LaQuinta on Main Street. No planned lunch on Saturday. The District Convention will be April 13-14, 2012.

2nd Vice District Governor Wendy talked about the Plant-a-Tree program. International President Tam's goal of 1,000,000 trees planted has been met. Elections and Nomination co-committee head Lion Chris Condren reported that the elections will be held at the Dis-

trict convention in April. All resolutions should be sent to her and DG Howie. There will be active campaigning at the mid-winter conference. Newsletter and Webmaster 2nd VDG Wendy and Lion Jim Weed spoke about the district newsletter and district website.

In an unscheduled announcement, PDG Warren spoke about the International Lions Club Foundation and the famine of children. He asked we make contributions to the foundation for children who are starving. San Antonio First Ladies club won the raffle. PDG Lytle gave the benediction. There being no other business the meeting was adjourned.

There were 83 members in attendance with 13 Past District Governor's and 23 Clubs.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Merrifield,
District Secretary

*Christmas Wishes for Joy,
Peace, and Happiness
From
JPDG John and Lion Pat Cole*

District 2-A2 Mid-Winter Conference 2012

Lions of District 2-A2 Mid Winter Conference

Party Time after the Holidays In
Beautiful Fredericksburg, Texas!

Famous for wonderful local attractions along with Shopping,
Shopping, Shopping, and did we mention Shopping?

Sponsored by the Fredericksburg Lions Club with Special Featured speaker at Saturday's cabinet meeting:

Dr. Sandra Fox, O.D.

Assistant Professor
Director of Clinical Optometry
Director of Lions Low Vision Center
Optometry, Low Vision, and Diabetic Eye Disease



Also a surprise Guest speaking on behalf of the Leo clubs of Europe!

District 2-A2 Mid-Winter Conference 2012

Locations and Details:

What: Candidates Reception / Hospitality

Date: January 13th 2012

Time: 7PM till?

Where: La Quinta -1465 E. Main Street – Booking options:

By phone: \$89.00 Plus Tax. - 830-990-2899

Not Available Online.

All candidates' hospitality will be enjoyed near the lobby in the breakfast room so we can all visit together in the same area, and to not disturb other guest in the hotel—No exceptions.



What: 2-A2 Mid Winter - Cabinet Meeting

Date: January 14th, 2012-- **Start Time: 9AM Sharp**

Where: First Baptist Church of Fredericksburg-1407 E. Main Street

There will be no planned lunch. Many Lions wearing their vests are planning to visit local eateries' in an effort to show our support for the many years they have given to the Fredericksburg Lions club.

For additional information contact PDG Lion Chris Lloyd, Mid-Winter Conference Chairperson at lionsmum@earthlink.net

Twelfth Annual Texas Leadership Forum and Lions Club International Regional Leadership Institute

Hilton Austin Airport
March 3 (start 11:30 a.m) and 4 (end 2:15 p.m.), 2012

REGISTRATION

All who attend must register

Registration must be for the event package.
It is not possible to register for individual meal functions.

Note: Please include 2nd registrant only if the mailing address is the same. If not, please use a separate form.

1st registrant
 Name: _____ Member # _____ Lion Yes No
 Phone: _____ E-mail _____

2nd registrant
 Name: _____ Member # _____ Lion Yes No
 Phone: _____ E-mail _____

Address: _____
 City/State _____ Zip code: _____
 Club: _____ District _____

Highest Lion office held (1st) _____
 Highest Lion office held (2nd) _____

If rooming with another person at the Hilton, in whose name is the reservation? _____

Make checks to: Texas Lions Leadership Forum Mail to: Frances Cherry Phone: 915-584-0130 6216 Caprock Cell: 915-494-4425 El Paso, TX 79912 pdgscherrys@yahoo.com	Registration before 1/29/12 # ____ @ \$50.00 = ____ Registration after 1/29/12 # ____ @\$75.00 = ____ No registration after February 19 or at the site
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Reserve your lodging directly with:
Hilton Austin Airport Hotel
 9515 New Airport Dr. (at Bergstrom Intl Airport)
 Austin, TX 78719
 Telephone: **800 – 584 - 5091**
 Rate: **\$99.00** per night, single or double. The reservation deadline at this rate is **February 10**. Reserve and guarantee your room now.

The first 100 Lions registering, who have never been elected to a position of Vice Governor or higher, will have their March 3rd lodging paid by the Institute.

Even those must make, and guarantee, their reservations with the Hilton Austin Airport Hotel. A charge will be made to the credit card of those not attending who do not cancel lodging.

The following page must be filled out for registration to be completed.

Twelfth Annual Texas Leadership Forum and Lions Club International Regional Leadership Institute

Each Registrant Must Select Six Sessions

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| 1 | 2 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Global Leadership Team |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Global Membership Team |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Club Excellence Process |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Mentoring |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Club Success |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | LCI Website |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | International service programs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Structure & Organization |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | LCI, MD history |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Public speaking |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Sharing best practices / Local Community Service |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Diversity & inclusion |

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Zone Chairperson support |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Goal setting by teamwork |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Future vice governors |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Club meeting management |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Lion fundamentals |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Motivating club members |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Personal mission statements |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Lions Clubs Int'l Foundation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Texas Lions Foundation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | World Services for the Blind |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Leaderdogs for the Blind |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Texas Lions Camp |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Texas Lions Eyeglass Recycling |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Leos—Organization & service |

**Leadership and learning are
indispensable to each other.**

- John F. Kennedy

From TLERC - 'tis the Season

It is **THE** season. It is the season to be jolly. It is the season to celebrate and to party. It is the season to give thanks for all of our many blessings. It is the season to share our blessings with our family & friends. Most importantly, it is the season to give to those less fortunate and in need.

And what better gift could you give than the gift of SIGHT?

Through TLERC that's the gift you and all of the Lions of MD2 give all year long. It's the gift we will keep on giving as long as we have the continued support (monetary &

physical) of the Lions of Texas. This Christmas, as people continue to struggle in a failing economy, providing glasses for those in need is even more important.

So as you decide how to share your many blessings this year, consider becoming a TLERC **"Visionary Knight of the Blind"** (min \$100/year or \$10/mo bank draft). Our initial goal is to have 400 Visionary Knights (25/District), although we have a very long way to go.

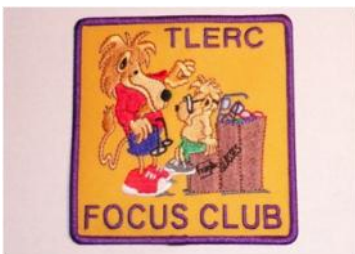
If a copy of the enrollment form is not in this newsletter, you can obtain one by contacting your TLERC

District Director, calling TLERC (432-683-3611), or from the Texas State website. Santa has just delivered a new load of the beautiful Visionary Knights of the Blind medallions with their oak desk stands that you will receive after signing up. So join this special group of Lions, and **keep giving sight all year long!**

From all of the volunteers and staff at the Texas Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center may all of you have a joyous Christmas and a prosperous and Happy New Year.

**Lion Tom Blase, VDG 2-A1
TLERC Promotions Director**

Sight: What Better Gift?



Club Gifts to TLERC

Focus Club – Almost from our inception, Lions been challenged to fight blindness. A "Focus Club" is one focused on the gift of vision to those in need, by supporting TLERC with at least a **member** gift.



Clubs have providing \$3 per

Individual Gifts to TLERC

Visionary Knights of the Blind – All Lions have been challenged by Helen Keller to be "Knights of the Blind". A "Visionary" recognizes that this fight is **never** ending. Thus, Visionary Knights of the Blind provide perpetual help by gifting at least **\$100/year**. This can be done by personal check or bank draft (min. \$10/mo).



The PDG O. Ike Fitzgerald Gold Vision Fellowship – A **\$1,000 or greater** gift recognizing PDG Ike's passion and determination in taking TLERC from vision to reality.

The Lion George Miles Silver Vision Fellowship A **\$500** gift recognizing the hard work of Lion George Miles in setting up and operating the TLERC recycling warehouse.

The Doctor Norman S. Gould Bronze Vision Fellowship – A **\$250** gift recognizing Lion Gould's tireless effort and dedication in developing the optometric programs of TLERC.

TLERC is a standalone 501(c)3 Foundation under the Lions of Texas. All deductions are tax deductible as allowed by U.S. tax law. TLERC joins the Texas Lions Camp and the Texas Lions Foundation as one of 3 that all Lions Clubs of the State of Texas have taken on the responsibility to maintain and support.

TLERC Auto Pay Form

Texas Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center

Mail Donations and Forms To: 401 N. Colorado, Suite 100 Midland, TX 79701
tlerc@attglobal.net 432-683-3611

Donor Name(s): _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone, Cell, Pager: _____ Email Address: _____

Lions Club Affiliation: _____ District: _____

A) Gold, Silver, or Bronze Vision Fellowship Gifts

\$1000 Gold Vision \$500 Silver Vision \$250 Bronze Vision

Name of Honoree as it is to be shown on plaque (Please print clearly): _____
 Check here if gift is to be given in memory of a deceased honoree

Please use a separate form for each gift. Plaque will be sent directly to the Donor's address listed above, not the honoree.

B) Visionary Knights of the Blind – Payment Options

Visionary "Knights of the Blind" are a special breed of "CAT", meeting the plea of Helen Keller by recognizing that her challenge to Lions is never ending. Such Visionaries understand that our financial support must be ongoing.

Enter name or names as you want it shown: _____

1. **Recurring Annual Payments** – Please select the annual level you wish to donate and send your check to the address above. A reminder letter will be sent to you each year on the anniversary of your enrollment as a Visionary Knight of the Blind.

\$100 (minimum) \$150 \$250 \$500 \$_____ (other annual amount)

2. **Monthly Bank Draft** – Please select the monthly amount you wish TLERC to draft monthly from your bank account. Drafts will be on the 15th of each month (or the 1st business day thereafter). Then follow the instructions below by completing and signing the form and attaching a voided check. Please return this form to the address above.

\$10 \$15 \$25 \$50 \$_____ (other monthly amount)

Instructions for Monthly Automatic Draft:

1) Enter amount of monthly automatic draft below 2) Sign and date lines marked with an 'X' 3) Attach a VOIDED check to this form

To The Texas Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center: I have given order to (print name of your Financial Institution): _____
 _____ to honor for you as they become due, on my monthly drafts and charge same to my account with this financial institution. This authorization will remain in effect until revoked by me in writing. Enter amount of monthly automatic draft selected above:
 \$_____ (minimum \$10/month)

Please sign and date below – use signature(s) required on your account

:X _____ Date: ___/___/___ X _____ Date: ___/___/___
(second signature only if 2 signatures required on check)

Selecting the Perfect Christmas Tree!

Reprinted from the Carolina Parent
Story by Carol McGarrahan



(Calvin the lion enjoys his new 'toy' during the annual Tree Toss at the Conservators' Center. Photo by Abbie Cooke, Chariot Creative Inc.)

newfound treasures, says Julia Matson Wagner, director of outreach for the nonprofit wildlife sanctuary in Caswell County that houses 97 animals and focuses on rescue, education and conservation.

"We have 21 lions on site, so when they all start talking with each other I have watched people stop and their jaws drop because they have never heard anything like this," she says. On a still night, a lion's roar can be heard up to five miles away, so hearing 21 lions up close and personal is a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

The event has become a popular post-holiday treat (for the animals and observers) that features lions, tigers and wolves bandying about Christmas trees donated by a local tree farm.

"The large cats are stimulated by different scents, and pine really seems to get them excited," Wagner says. "It's comparable to giving a domestic cat catnip." It's also a perfect time of year for the event because the large cats are frisky during the cold weather.

The Tree Toss was so popular with center volunteers that organizers opened it to the public for the first time last year. This year, the staff decided to expand the event to two weekends. "The Tree Toss event has just kind of taken off," Wagner says.

Christmas trees and lions make for a wild mix this month during the annual Christmas Tree Toss at the Conservators' Center north of Mebane. The center is offering pre-purchase tickets to the event, which is scheduled for two weekend evenings.

Last year, visitors were astounded when they heard the animals calling to each other while tussling with their

animals calling to each other while tussling with their

MD-2 2012 Texas Lions State Convention



TEXAS



MD-2 TEXAS LIONS 2012 STATE CONVENTION

May 17 - 19, 2012



“Come join our salute to Patriotism”

www.GoLions.us

Register on-line



San Antonio Northwest Lions Club

San Antonio Northwest Lions Club was hard at work in the month of November. Their 16 member club added number 17 when Lion Stefanie Escobar was installed as a new member on November 8, 2011. The honor of inducting Lion Stefanie went to PDG T. J. Tijerina; her sponsor is her spouse, Lion Ramiro Escobar.

Welcome to Lions, Stefanie. May your journey in Lionism be long and satisfying.

The Club members also delivered twelve food boxes to needy families in the club's service area on the Saturday before Thanksgiving. The club spent about \$400 for the food items included in the project, and of course, the boxes wouldn't be complete without a turkey for each family.

A rummage sale was also held on the Saturday before Thanksgiving, spearheaded by Lion s Ramiro and

Stefanie Escobar, netting a profit of approximately \$250.

At the Regular meeting on November 22, the club was honored to have Lion Trish Wilson, always an inspirational speaker, from the Texas Lions camp.

If you'd like to visit their e-clubhouse just click on the link below:

<http://e-clubhouse.org/sites/sanantonionorthwestx/>

Alamo Heights Lions Club #1 Contributor to the Hearing Board!



On September 20, 2011, Lion Lulu Garcia gave a presentation at the regular meeting of the Alamo Heights Lions Club on her work with the District 2-A2 Hearing Board. Seated across from Lion Lulu is her Partner in Service, Lion Jim Garcia.

Presently, the Alamo Heights Lions Club holds the honor of being the top contributor to the District 2-A2 Hearing Board.

Our thanks to Lion Lulu for her hard work and dedication, and to the Alamo Heights Lions club for their generous contributions to this important cause.



**LION'S LOW VISION
CENTER OF
TEXAS**

SAN ANTONIO

[Click Here For Information](#)





*A Christmas wish for you
from
District Governor Howie Marbach,
Vice District Governor Richard Keilholz,
and
Second Vice District Governor Wendy Van Winkle*

